

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

Claims 1-52. Canceled.

- 531. (currently amended) A method of altering the binding affinity of a peptide to its receptor, comprising conjugating the peptide to an amphiphilic oligomer comprising a lipophilic moiety coupled to a hydrophilic moiety.
- 542. (currently amended) The method according to claim 481 further characterized in that the binding affinity is increased.
- 553. (currently amended) The method according to claim 481 further characterized in that the binding affinity is reduced.
- 564. (currently amended) The method of claim 481, wherein the peptide is a peptide or protein.
- 575. (currently amended) The method of claim 484, wherein the peptide is selected from the group consisting of: enkephalin, adrenocorticotropic hormone, adenosine deaminase, ribonuclease, alkaline phosphatase, angiotensin, antibodies, arginase, arginine deaminate, asparaginase, caerulein, calcitonin, chymotrypsin, cholecystokinin, clotting factors, dynorphins, ~~endorphins~~, endorphins, ~~enkephalins~~, enkephalins, erythropoietin, gastrin-releasing peptide, glucagon, hemoglobin, hypothalamic releasing factors, interferon, katacalcin, motilin, neuropeptide Y, ~~neuretensin~~neurotensin, non-naturally occurring opioids, ~~oxytesinoxytocin~~, oxytocin, papain, parathyroid hormone, ~~peptides~~-prolactin,

soluble CD-4, somatomedin, somatostatin, ~~somatostatin~~, somatotropin, superoxide dismutase, thyroid stimulating hormone, tissue plasminogen activator, trypsin, vasopressin, and analogues and fragments of such peptides.

586. (currently amended) The method of claim 484 wherein the peptide is [met⁵]enkephalin.

597. (currently amended) The method of claim 481, wherein the lipophilic moiety is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, C₁₋₂₆alkyls, and ~~cholesterol~~ cholesterol.

608. (currently amended) The method of claim 481, wherein the hydrophilic moiety is selected from the group consisting of sugars or PEG₁₋₇.

61-63. Canceled.

649. (new and currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the receptor is an opioid receptor.